

OUR ARID LANDS.

that California must do to meet her share of the Congressional Appropriation—Senator Stans and Stewart Address the State Board of Trade.

(San Francisco Report.)

The State Board of Trade's Executive Committee was addressed by Senator Stans and Stewart (of Nevada) this afternoon on the question of the irrigation in California, and the appropriations to be made by Congress for irrigation and drainage. Senator Stans strongly in favor of California, emphasizing his claims in that direction. He said that the benefits could not be overestimated. "Our old system," said he, "of cultivating the lands, was a very good one, but the prospect for irrigation was very beneficial, and creates a new class of homes on lands that are now waste and, and I enthusiastically endorse the expenditure of even five millions of dollars for irrigation."

Senator Stewart said: "I am always in favor of doing what is possible. I don't think it expedient to consider it necessary to expend. My plan is to get the surveys and see what the land is. If it had been done *twenty* years ago, it might have brought great results. When I see these surveys made and can show me an acre of arable and have homes on an acre, survey the whole balance of arable land in the United States, and few people will care that two-thirds of our civilization is by irrigation. Men first went into the desert because they found it in the desert. The forests are not taken so much because they are in the desert land into condition as an acre of wooded land. When I see what can be done it will appear to me that it is not a good plan, but I do not think it a good plan."

[illegible]

Senator Stanford, who had been a member of the committee on irrigation, which had shortly been in this state, and who had been in California for some time, could make a thoroughly understanding of the possibilities of the arid lands. He had seen people had been relying on rain for their crops, and had not considered water as a resource to be done by irrigation. The present mode of population was gradually taking place, and the one that was being done was, beginning with a small sum, had even incurred debt of \$115,000,000, had spent nearly the sum, but had succeeded in making

of itself, and had cast them out. Their possibilities were greater than had leading mines which co-operated and brought in the greatest results. Do not be in a hurry; get all of your estimates as correct and justly proportioned, because you will have to come in contact with people who will suspect we are trying to rob them." Governor Stanford here inquired how much Stewart had any figures to show the comparative cost of reclaiming the level forest and the desert. He was informed that it would cost from \$200 to \$300 an acre for forest land and \$200 an acre for desert land, and that an acre of reclaimed desert land would cost more than twice the amount of forest land.

Governor Stanford on leaving said that the State Board was now considering

most important subject before the United States, and that he was through sympathy with it and trusted that it would be kept up.

Representative Morrow followed Senator Stewart, and promised his best efforts to have a similar committee to that the Senate appointed from the House representatives. He thought this subject would only have to be undertaken to bring success. Mr. Morrow said: "I do not think it a good policy for the papers to overestimate the consequences of this plan, as they may produce or prevent the success of the plan. We must get surveys and plans and educational subject."

The Public School.

to be discharged because of the attendance, and the idea of closing school intact is a good one. This school this year has made good way, and aside from some complaints about promotions at the end of the first five months has given satisfactory results.

During the year two ward schools have been established, one in charge of Mrs. Mary and one in charge of Miss Brown, both of which are in a flourishing condition. In all there are now four schools.

both of which are in a flourishing condition. In all there are now four teachers engaged—two men and two ladies.

There was a difference of opinion between the trustees and Supt. Straub concerning the number of trustees to be elected at the approaching school election, and to end the controversy Mr. Samuel Hughes has concluded to resign, and will leave two to elect in his stead.

Three hundred trees were put out by the trustees this year, around the school house.

three hundred trees were put out by the trustees this year around the school building and every one of them are growing nicely.

Mr. Mansfield is the hold over member of the board. He has taken a considerable interest in the welfare of the school since his election last year.

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